

U.S. Department of Labor

Office of Inspector General
Washington D.C. 20210



Att: Beryl Lipton
Reporter
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 70821
411A Highland Ave.
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

April 15, 2019

70821-04602413@requests.muckrock.com

Dear Ms. Lipton:

This is in response to your March 25, 2019, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted on behalf of MuckRock News to the DOL FOIArequests website. The DOL Office of Information Services forwarded your requests to this office on March 27, 2019 for processing and direct response. Your request was assigned OIG FOIA case number **219030**. I am responding on behalf of the Office of Inspector General. Other DOL offices will be responding to you separately.

Your request is for information related to the funding, staffing and activities of this FOIA Office. Specifically you requested the following:

1. budget materials related to FOIA processing and response for 2017-2019,
2. staffing orders, reports, contacts, includes number of FOIA employees and hours worked for 2017 and 2018
3. FOIA requester categories for the years 2017 and 2018
4. number of fee waivers granted for 2017 and 2018 to include the tracking number
5. FOIA fee collection for 2017 and 2018

The Office of Inspector General is a small agency with a centralized one person FOIA office where all phases of the FOIA process are handled. Therefore, there are no responsive documents related to the FOIA program for items 1 and 2 of your request. There is one full time equivalent federal employee (GS 14 Government Information Specialist) at full time (2086 hours+). Although the OIG FOIA system documents the requester categories and fee information for each request, the system does not maintain this information in an aggregate form. Nor does it have a calculating feature for sorting the fee and FOIA category fields. However, information was manually searched and compiled to respond to the data you requested.

For Fiscal Years 2017 and 2018 the FOIA requester category and fee waiver information had the following breakdown:

<u>Category</u>	<u>FY 2017</u>	<u>FY 2018</u>
All Other	41	51
Commercial	13	15
Media	18	17
Educational/Non Commercial	0	2
Fee waivers granted	0	4
Fees collected	0	0

Fee waivers were granted for the following OIG FOIA case numbers: 218037, 218044, 218018, and 218014.

You have the right to appeal this response within 90 days from the date of this letter. Should you decide to do this, your appeal must state, in writing, the grounds for appeal, together with any statement or arguments. Such an appeal should be addressed and directed to the Solicitor of Labor, citing OIG/FOIA No. 219030, Room N-2428, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. Please refer to the Department of Labor regulations at 29 CFR 70.22 for further details on your appeal rights.

Should you wish to discuss this response to your request, feel free to contact this office at 202-693-5113 or the DOL FOIA Public Liaison, Thomas Hicks at 202-693-5427. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

We hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

Kimberly J Pacheco

Kimberly J. Pacheco
FOIA Officer